



SPORTS | C1

AFTER ‘DISASTER,’
AMERICAN SKATER
DAZZLES CROWD
WITH FREE SKATE



SPORTS | C1

HEAT RALLY SINKS
BARRACUDA WITH
THREE-GOAL THIRD,
WINNER LATE IN OT

Sunday
Savings
Inside

The Record

Saturday, February 17, 2018

@Recordnet | Facebook.com/Recordnet | \$3

Find us on all platforms 24/7



recordnet.com

FBI drops ball on shooter tip

Agency says it failed to investigate reports on Florida suspect

By Kelli Kennedy, Curt Anderson and Tamara Lush
The Associated Press

PARKLAND, Fla. — The FBI received a tip last month that the suspect in the Florida school shooting had a “desire to kill” and access to guns and could be plotting an attack, but agents failed

to investigate, the agency said Friday. Florida Gov. Rick Scott called for the FBI’s director to resign because of the missteps.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the shooting that killed 17 people Wednesday was a “tragic consequence” of the FBI’s failure and ordered a review of the Justice Department’s processes. He said it’s now clear that the nation’s premier law enforcement agency missed warning signs.

In more evidence that there

had been signs of trouble with the suspect, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said at a Friday news conference that his office had received more than 20 calls about Nikolas Cruz in the past few years.

A person close to Cruz called the FBI’s tip line on Jan. 5 and provided information about Cruz’s weapons and his erratic behavior, including his disturbing social media posts. The caller was concerned that Cruz could attack a school.

In a statement, the agency acknowledged that the tip should have been shared with the FBI’s Miami office and investigated, but it was not. The startling admission came as the agency was already facing criticism for its treatment of a tip about a YouTube comment posted last year. The comment posted by a “Nikolas Cruz” said, “Im going to be a professional school shooter.”

See FBI, A6

LOCAL | A3

STOCKTON MAN
PLEADS GUILTY
TO CHILD SEX
TRAFFICKING

Counsel: Russians meddled with 2016 election

By Eric Tucker
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a historic indictment, the U.S. special counsel accused 13 Russians Friday of an elaborate plot to disrupt the 2016 presidential election, charging them with running a huge but hidden social media trolling campaign aimed in part at helping Republican Donald Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton.

The federal indictment, brought by special counsel Robert Mueller, represents the most detailed allegations to date of illegal Russian meddling during the campaign that sent Trump to the White House. It also marks the first criminal charges against Russians believed to have secretly worked to influence the outcome.

The Russian organization was funded by Yevgeny Prigozhin, the indictment says. He is a wealthy St. Petersburg businessman and a member of President Vladimir Putin’s inner circle.

Trump quickly claimed vindication Friday, noting in a tweet that the alleged interference efforts

See ELECTION, A6

‘Thoughts and prayers are not enough’



About 40 people protested gun violence at a rally Friday organized by Cleveland School Remembers on Pacific Avenue and March Lane in Stockton. The rally came in response to another mass shooting Wednesday in Florida that left 17 dead. “It almost broke me when I found out,” said retired teacher Julie Schardt of Cleveland School Remembers. “I’m a strong person, ... but I fell apart.” [CLIFFORD OTO/THE RECORD]

Ralliers urge action on gun violence

By Nicholas Filipas
Record Staff Writer

STOCKTON — More than 40 individuals frustrated with what they feel is a lack of significant legislation to preventing gun deaths held a one-hour rally late Friday afternoon along Pacific Avenue.

People held up homemade signs urging that more be done on stricter background checks and banning both assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines.

The rally was in response to a mass shooting Wednesday at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. A 19-year-old man opened fire using

an AR-15 rifle, killing 17 people and injuring 14 more.

Retired teacher Julie Schardt of Cleveland School Remembers called the number of mass shootings that happen in the U.S. “exhausting.” So many people have died senselessly in Sutherland Springs, Texas; Las Vegas; San Bernardino; and Orlando, Florida, to name a few.

“This time was different, it almost broke me when I found out,” said Schardt. “I’m a strong person, ... but I fell apart.”

Many of those attending Friday’s rally, including Schardt, were former Cleveland Elementary School teachers. On Jan. 17, 1989, a gunman walked onto the midtown Stockton playground and killed five children and wounded 30 others before killing himself.

See RALLY, A6



Deacon Steve Bentley holds a sign during Friday’s rally. [CLIFFORD OTO/THE RECORD]

SPORTS | C1

TOKAY SENIOR
2 PINS CLOSER
TO DREAMS OF
TRIP TO STATE



LOCAL | A3

STATE MIGHT
MAKE WATER
CONSERVATION
PERMANENT